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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Yoshihisa MATSUBARA et al.  
Serial No.: 09/840,386  
Filed: April 23, 2001  
Title: **METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, AND PROCESSING SYSTEM AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**  
Examiner: Lan Vinh  
Group Art Unit: 1765  
Confirmation No.: 2510  
Attorney Docket No.: 100806-00199 (NEKA 18.612)

November 28, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

SIR:

In response to the final Office Action issued June 28, 2005, please amend the above-captioned application as follows: